

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. **(currently amended):** A method for producing a magnetic recording medium having a nonmagnetic substrate coated with a magnetic coating material containing a ferromagnetic powder and a binder, wherein:

the magnetic coating material contains a liquid A constituted by the ferromagnetic powder and a solvent, and a solution B of the binder; and

the liquid A and the solution B are mixed together by a thin-layer revolving fast stirring apparatus at a circumferential speed of 25 m/sec or greater, and are thereafter subjected to dispersion processing.

2. **(previously presented):** The method for producing a magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein liquid A is subjected to dispersion processing by applying an ultrasonic wave thereto before liquid A and solution B are mixed.

3. **(previously presented):** The method for producing a magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein a thin layer of a mixture of liquid A and solution B having a thickness of about 12 to 18 mm is formed when liquid A and solution B are mixed in the apparatus.

4. **(canceled).**

5. **(previously presented):** The method for producing a magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein stirring at a circumferential speed of 40 to 50 m/sec is performed in the apparatus.

6. **(canceled).**

7. **(previously presented):** The method for producing a magnetic recording medium according to claim 3, wherein stirring at a circumferential speed of 40 to 50 m/sec is performed in the apparatus.